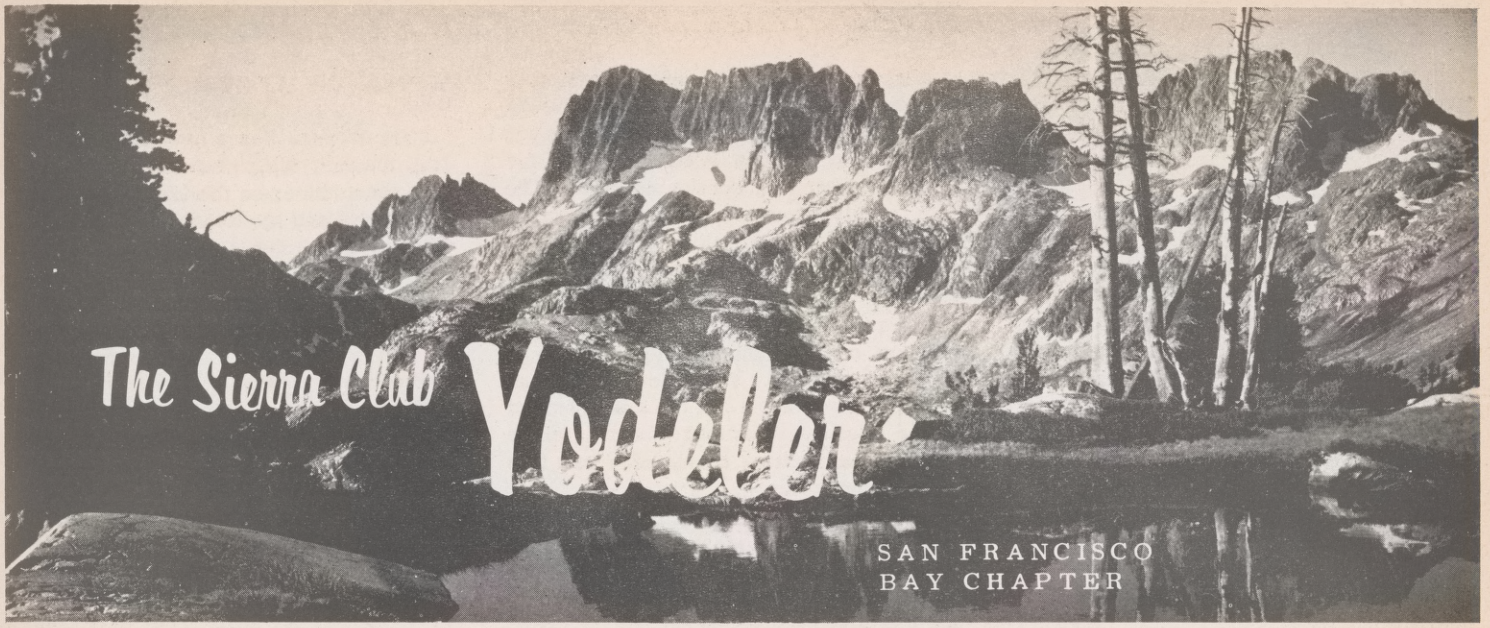

VOL. XXII | January 4, 1960 | Number 1

CONSERVATION AT WASHINGTON & SACRAMENTO

On the conservation front there are two outstanding items for your attention. Congress has convened and the Wilderness Bill is (we hope) again in the limelight.

We were promised that it would be taken up by the Senate Committee on Interior Affairs, of which Senator James Murray is chairman, at the beginning of its work this session.

The Wilderness Bill is an attempt to extend the protection of Congress to our existing Wilderness Areas, which are now subject to change by administrative orders. This is opposed by many special interest groups, miners, cattlemen, lumbermen, etc., on the grounds that it would interfere with future commercial development.

The Bill is supported by conservation-minded groups, whose interest is just as "special" but has the different objective of preservation of wilderness for future enjoyment. It is your right and privilege to let your views be known to your Senators and Congressmen. You may be sure that opponents of the bill are not resting content with the letters they wrote last year.

The other item of news is the renewed threat to Mt. San Jacinto State Park. The State Park Commission is debating renewal of the application by the Winter Park Authority for permit to build a cable railway. For 12 years they have been unable to finance the project, which has grown fantastically expensive in that time, but now the promoters say they really have financial backing and expect to sell the necessary bonds if they can get the permit renewed.

Continued on Page 2

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OFFICE STAFF

If your call to the Sierra Club is answered by a deep masculine voice, you will be talking to our new office manager, Elmer F. Maryatt, Jr., who has taken over Virginia Ferguson's desk at the far west end of the office and with it the responsibility for keeping 15,000 members recorded, filed, informed, soothed and encouraged to pay their dues at the proper time.

Elmer has spent some years with General Electric Co., so the Sierra Club office must be a considerable contrast—magnificently unpredictable and at times tending to chaos.

He has never been a Club member but he has been in orbit around it all his life, having Lewis Clark and other members as friends, but getting no further into active sports than a cabin at Pinecrest. Yodeler wishes him the best of good luck here, with good friends and good times to come in his association with the Club.

Moving east from Elmer's desk we find Opal Sharman, member for years, who is staff member in charge of address and membership records. If you think that is not a full time job, just look at the pile of yellow change-of-address slips Opal makes out every day.

Then comes the desk of Annie Nilsson, who has a long record of service, volunteer and professional, to the Club. She is a veteran of Clair Tappaan Lodge work parties and knew the lodge when it was nothing but a hole in the ground. Annie's wide knowledge of Club affairs and Club people is a great help in this time of change in the office.

Lodge reservations are now being han-

Continued on Page 2

FIGHT - HOORAY! ROUND TWO!

(Dan L. Thrapp sent the Yodeler a copy of the following article, which he wrote for the Southern Sierran.)

One of the hazards of writing a column, albeit an irregular one, is that you thereby make yourself the target for individuals of differing opinions, which is okay, and for those who carelessly or willfully misinterpret what you say, which is not all right.

Comes Dr. Leslie H. Gould, who takes exception to parts of the October column, which was reprinted in the Yodeler issue of November 2. He has a right to his opinion, as I have to mine, but we ought to get the record straight.

Dr. Gould infers from my comments on the law prohibiting barbaric methods of slaughter of wild horses and burros that I am opposed to control of these animals for the benefit of non-exotic forms of desert life. Anyone familiar with this column knows that I was among the first to call attention to the need for such control, in Death Valley and elsewhere.

Before taking up this issue in Southern Sierran, I brought it ot public attention years and years ago in the Calico Print, a desert publication now lamentably extinct. I have fought the introduction of exotics and urged their control or elimination for more years than I care to mention — and for many more years, apparently, than Dr. Gould has been reading my stuff.

In places where burros and wild horses need to be controlled for the benefit of native forms of wildlife, I shall support such control — but by professionals, and the control to be done in a humane, efficient and workmanlike way. Not by the

Continued on Page 2

Sierra Club Yodeler

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Cartoonist Elaine Simpson

Manager
A. Louis Elliott

NEXT DEADLINE: Jan. 18

VOLUME XXII NO. 1 Jan. 4, 1960

Happy New Year (Cont.)

dled by a new staff member at the desk near the door of the office, Elizabeth Lehmann, Club member and skier herself, now learning how it looks from the other end of the telephone line.

In her special compartment near the Library door, Gladys Coakley handles bookkeeping chores. She can pull out her big books and tell you just how much is in Point Reyes account, what the sale of a book has brought in, and any other financial question.

Way down east beyond the Library is the office of Dave Brower, Executive Director of the Sierra Club, to which all matters concerning conservation and general policy are referred. Sharing Dave's office is Bob Golden, who works partly on Outings and partly on Conservation. If you get the impression, on peeking into that office, that Dave and Bob can hardly see each other for the mountain of work papers between them, you are so right.

Dave's secretary is Anne Chamberlin, who is better than an encyclopedia for questions on the persons and committees who run our 14 chapters and far-reaching affairs, and who are always in process of change. Peg Smalley, not a member but an experienced world traveller, is helping Anne to keep abreast of the constant changes and the small mountain of conservation material which comes and goes with the mail.

And NOW do you wonder that we need more space? --C.M.C.

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RIVER TOURING

With the beginning of the new year plans are well under way for the new boating season ahead. It is not too early for you newcomers to drop around and see for yourself what this section is up to. The only requirements for a beginning river tourer is swimming ability. The rest of the knowledge and basic skills necessary for a majority of our trips may be learned fairly rapidly during the spring training session and beginner's trips. Come to the next regularly scheduled meeting at 8:00 p.m. January 12 at the Lake Merritt Canoe House and hear more about our plans and see an exciting movie of a raft trip in the Grand Canyon.

We also hope to see all those old familiar faces back again this year. Plans are afoot for a babysitting arrangement on trips so parents needn't wait ten years for junior to grow up but can join the group and enjoy the rivers right now.

If the old timers need any special encouragement to come to the next meeting they should find it in the fact that there will be a RTS barn dance on January 16 and the details will be announced at the meeting. So save the 16th and come along.

—Elaine Simpson

Sonoma Coast State Park Trip

The January 24 Sonoma Coast State Park trip will bear little relation to previous trips to this area. The route has been scouted and found possible. One can go from one end of the park to the other (about 10 miles) provided one is willing to run some parts between waves, and to scramble up cliffs when the water gets too rough. Exact route, while favored by a moderately low tide, will depend on wind and weather. NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BEGINNERS. Don't come unless you are willing to get your feet wet, and be prepared for rough scrambling if necessary. Reward: a magnificent stretch of coastline. Bring warm clothes, and dry footwear for return trip. The bus will leave S.F. at 7:30 a.m., instead of 8:00 a.m., as stated in the schedule.

—Mary Belle Allen

IN MEMORIAM

Old-timers, especially High-Trippers, will miss the cheerful faces and lively spirit of Caroline Coleman and Miriam Burd, who both died in Bombay, India, early in December, apparently from an infection incurred during their stay in Ceylon. Both were on a Round-the-World trip, enjoying their retirement, and it is good to know from their letters that the trip was a delight right up to the unforeseen end.

SKI TOURING

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: PLEASE NOTE:

Carl Werner has a new address: 723-11th Avenue, S.F., phone SKyline 1-2188. Carl is a leader on the Ludlow trip, January 9-10; and the Benson-to-Squaw Valley trip March 5-6.

Hooray (Cont.)

inhumane, savage, careless and wanton methods the bill in question sought to correct and which I personally have seen in practice in many parts of the West.

Nor am I convinced that the extinction of the feral burro or horse in all parts of the West is an end to be desired.

It is true they compete in some places with native forms of wildlife. But, this is a big country still. They have contributed to the richness of this nation, to its lore and its beauty, too, and surely there is a place for them somewhere on the western scene. That, however, is not at question here.

Dr. Gould leaps to misinterpret my acid comments on those who today hunt elk and other game by illegal methods as a condemnation of hunters in general. A more careful and accurate reading of the paragraph in question would make clear that this was not my point.

I have often distinguished, in this column and elsewhere, between hunters who are sportsmen and valued students of wildlife, and the bums who appear to make every effort to give the sport a bad name.

If Dr. Gould cares to put up a defense for this type of individual, I'll be glad to take him on—with typewriter—at any length and on any page. Meanwhile, I suggest he re-read the column for an accurate statement of my views.

Conservation (Cont.)

At the meeting of the State Park Commission in San Francisco in December, the Division of Beaches and Parks was directed to draw up a contract for consideration, which, if the permit is finally granted, will in some measure protect the Park.

A hearing for the purpose of discussing the contract and permit will be held in Los Angeles on Friday, January 15, a few days after you receive this Yodeler.

The Sierra Club opposes the tramway, as it always has, because of the obvious damage which would result to the State Park, by the devastation of construction and the impact of masses of people on a fragile alpine terrain.

Your own views on this, sent to the State Park Commission, Sacramento, of which Mr. Joseph R. Knowland is chairman, would help to prevent or modify the damage from the proposed tramway. But act quickly when you read this. --C.M.C.

HIKING-With Rocks

Fair weather helped swell the crowd of would-be climbers and onlookers who hiked to East Peak with Bob Hackamack and Hazel Eggett on November 14. Chuck Belling, RCS member, followed us to the Peak and distributed ropes for practice in knot-tying. We moved from this to the very first rappels most members of the class have yet attempted. Most members of Chuck's seminar gathered enough courage for at least one rappel. And after lunch Chuck, along with several volunteer assistants, helped with simple (for RCS members!) climbs.

Even those of us who remained strictly audience during this demonstration say a warm thank you to Chuck for our new knowledge of rock-climbing technique. Those of us who rappeled with even a smattering of success are eager for another session early in 1960. "Off belay!" —until then, at any rate.

—Jane Luckham

THRILLING Grand Canyon

A thrilling movie about a raft trip down the Grand Canyon will be shown on Tuesday evening, January 12, at the Lake Merritt Canoe House located on Oak Street near 14th in Oakland. Mr. O. E. Hopfer's half hour 16 mm. film is reported by Lou and Claire Elliott to be excellent. Mr. Hopfer does a fine job in capturing the thrills, excitement and beauty of the Grand Canyon.

All are invited to attend the River Touring Section meeting at which the film will be shown. There is no admission charge. The meeting begins at 8:00 p.m. Sharp!!

Kayaks Down the Congo

John M. Goddard will be in East Bay, Friday and Saturday, January 15 and 16, 1960, showing his full length color film "Kayaks Down the Congo".

Goddard and his British partner, Jack Jorvell, made the film as they ran the first 450 miles of the Congo, running 127 rapids. Jorvell was killed on the river.

The lecture and film are to be given as a benefit in the new Interstake Auditorium of the L.D.S. Church at 4780 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, at 8:00 p.m., January 15 and 16. The suggested donation is $1.50. The new auditorium is just west of the intersection of Lincoln and Warren (Mountain) Blvd.

Stork with Sleighbells-Almost

Congratulations to Phebe and Herb Hinze on the arrival of a 3rd daughter on Dec. 21, 1959. Alice Jo is the little lady's brand new name, and she weighed in at a solid 8 lbs.

Science Academy to Feature Artography Show

"A World of Beauty" is the title of the Artography (art-in-photography) show that artist Alexander G. Weygers brings to the Morrison Auditorium at the Academy of Sciences Friday, January 22, at 8:15 p.m.

The best of Weygers' kodachromes, with many new slides from a recent Sierra trip —fall colors, ice, nature's Totems— will be presented. The artist, with his camera as a tool, finds new beauty in nature.

Tickets are $1. Box office opens at 7 p.m. the night of the performance.

Congratulations

The Yodeler wishes to congratulate the San Francisco Examiner and reporter William Mackey for the excellent article and photographs of the logging which is destroying valuable acreage in the proposed National Seashore Area at Point Reyes. The article appeared on page one of the January 4 issue.

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Newsworthy

Phil Lydon tells us that he was married on December 5 to the former Gerda Landeis of Oakland, also a member of the Sierra Club and a long-time Yodelereader. They both are seizing the opportunity afforded by Phil's transfer to Redding to knapsack and snowshoe in the mountains of Northern California. They hope that their many friends from the Bay Area will drop in on them from time to time when in the Redding area.

Hear Ye!!

Note from the editor to Bay Chapter Section Chairmen: It would greatly be appreciated by the "Yodeler" staff if the heads of the various sections within the Chapter would see that someone on their committee supplies news and information on events and activities within their section to the Club Office for publication in the "Yodeler". Some sections have not been supplying us with news pertaining to their groups, and we would very much like to have well-rounded coverage on all Bay Chapter events, both past and future. This news can either be phoned in to the office on "Yodeler" publication nights or mailed in to the office in either typewritten or longhand form. Let's all pull together to make this the most interesting paper possible. —EDB

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WEST POINT CLUB HOSTESS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1960

Jan. 2-3	Esther and Roy Crites	GRaystone 4-1666	Anytime
Jan. 9-10	Letha Riley and Herb Breitbach	WAlnut 1-3970	Evenings
Jan. 16-17	Gerry Hunter	EDgewater 2-3948	Evenings
*Jan 23-24	Eleanor Locey and Estelle Berkhimer		
Jan. 30-31	Berkeley Hiking Club		
Feb. 6-7	Irene Meining	GRaystone 4-4266	Anytime
*Feb. 13-14	VALENTINE PARTY- Grace & Alan Woodward	GRaystone 4-2500	Anytime
Feb. 20-21	Monta Johnson	JUniper 5-1164	Evenings
*Feb. 27-28	Ann Cole and Harry Kornfeld	PRospect 6-4194	Evenings

*CENTRAL COMMISSARY. Cancellation of reservations must be made by Thursday or party must pay for week end.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OKs EXPANDED YODELER

At the last meeting of the executive committee, Lou Elliott, Manager of the Yodeler, read a very complete and thorough analysis of the new plans for the Yodeler written by Bruce Grant. It has long been recognized that the Chapter doesn't have adequate communication. Since the Yodeler at present goes to over some 1100 subscribers, the majority of our members do not receive timely information at the Chapter level on matters of policy, conservation news, and other items that make up an interested and well-informed membership.

The plan is to send the Yodeler to the entire Chapter as fast as advertising revenue can be developed to offset the additional cost. If the plans as outlined are anywhere near as successful as we hope, we should be able to include, in future issues, interesting how-to-do-it articles, the latest developments in equipment, as well as maps, pictures, and up to the minute information on trips.

This will take an increased staff and it is hoped that some of you who read this will be encouraged to volunteer your services. We plan to handle this additional work load on the alternate Mondays in between regular editorial nights. These meetings will be held in the East Bay, at 1016 Jackson Street, on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. These evenings will be reserved for writing advertising copy and other items which do not have a time value. The first meeting of this group will be held next Monday, January 11th. Those interested in learning about advertising techniques, lithograph and printing production, and what makes a house organ tick are urged to call Lou Elliott, HI 4-2054, days; OL 5-3801, evenings.

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